Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 03 Feb 2021 until 23:59 on Thursday 04 Feb 2021

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 02 Feb 2021 at 11:01

Confidence: High confidence for an unsettled period of weather over the forecast period but lower confidence in detail as a low pressure system sits over the Lake District area. Keep updated with the latest forecast before heading out.

Headline for Wednesday 03 Feb 2021: Becoming colder again with outbreaks of rain, sleet and snow, drier later.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 03 Feb 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Sleet	Sleet	Sleet	Sleet	Dull	Dull	Sleet	Light snow
Precipitation probability							
60%	60%	60%	50%	50%	40%	50%	60%

Forecast for Wednesday 03 Feb 2021

Weather: Outbreaks of rain and sleet overnight and during the morning with extensive cloud cover, the outbreaks will become less frequent by late morning and some drier spells are likely during the afternoon, especially in the west. Cloud will lift a little during the day but remaining quite dull throughout. A few more wintry showers are likely in the evening and these will turn increasingly to snow over the fells.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 10% during the morning with extensive low cloud in association with rain and sleety outbreaks, increasing in the afternoon to 40% especially in the west where there is more chance of cloud breaks.

Visibility: Generally poor or very poor during the morning as rain and sleet affects the area with broken cloud bases from 400m upwards, perhaps slightly higher in the west. Visibility becoming moderate in the west where cloud will begin to lift by late morning to 600m. By late afternoon visibility may be good at times especially in the west. Visibility will decline later as wintry showers occur with very poor conditions expected during the evening up on the fells.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Wednesday 03 Feb 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	23/31 E	18/24 SE	17/23 S	14/19 SE	13/18 SE	15/20 SE	15/19 SE	17/23 SE	19/26 SE
600	20/30 E	16/21 SE	11/16 S	10/14 SE	11/16 SE	13/18 SE	13/18 SE	16/23 SE	16/24 SE
300	10/24 E	5/15 E	4/13 S	4/11 SE	6/12 SE	6/13 SE	6/13 SE	9/19 SE	9/20 SE
Valley	11/24 E	7/18 E	6/15 E	7/12 NE	6/12 E	6/12 SE	7/14 E	8/15 NE	10/19 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	0/-6	0/-6	0/-6	0/-5	-0/-6	-1/-7	-1/-6	-1/-7	-2/-8
600	0/-7	1/-4	2/-2	2/-2	1/-3	1/-4	0/-4	-0/-6	-0/-6
300	2/-2	3/0	3/2	3/1	3/1	3/1	2/0	2/-2	2/-2
Valley	5/1	4/2	4/2	4/2	5/3	5/3	4/2	4/1	4/0
Freezing Level*	1300m	1200m	1200m	1100m	900m	800m	700m	500m	500m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Freezing level falling as cold air from the north begins to sink south over the Lake District, it is a very fine balance between warmer and colder air over this area and whether precipitation will be rain or snow.

Forecast for Thursday 04 Feb 2021

Weather: A period of moderate sleet or snowfall is likely in the morning but becoming more showery later in the day. Remaining dull and cloudy throughout. With freezing level around 800m, precipitation is likely to be wintry on the fell tops with some accumulations expected.

Maximum wind: Southeasterly 15mph with gusts 25mph.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 10% or less. Cloud is likely to be extensive at low level during the morning, perhaps 30% in the afternoon as cloud lifts and breaks especially in the west.

Visibility: Poor or very poor in low cloud, bases around 500m and wintry precipitation with tricky navigation conditions likely at higher levels. Moderate later in the day as cloud lifts to around 700m, visibility is likely to be better in the west.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 2 rising to plus 5 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 1 Celsius
Freezing level: 800-1000m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 2 February 2021. Location: Great Rigg summit (766m) at 1255. Full report Fresh snow has settled at all levels deposited on a predominantly E wind. It was thawing below 350m with a rapid thaw below 200m. The consistency of the snowpack was mainly wet at lower elevations and powder higher up where unaffected by the thaw. As usual, depth varied from little on windswept areas to drifts of up to 20cm at 750m in sheltered spots and hollows. Above 700m, especially on E and N facing aspects, there is old, hard snow above which the fresh snow, deposited on E winds, was failing to settle. That was the situation observed on Great Rigg, but may not be the case elsewhere where an unstable layer of snow could be building on such slopes. A particular hazard on paths, especially on flatter sections or where they cross drainage lines, was fresh snow covering patches of ice. This was also a problem above 700m on popular routes where old compacted snow and ice was hidden. Also above 700m some rocks were covered in verglas (thin ice). On Monday, small cracks were observed in some of the cornices that exist above N and E facing slopes, so please keep well clear of such edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. Upland tarns, such as Red Tarn, have frozen and may now be hidden under fresh snow. This combined with slightly milder temperatures makes them extremely dangerous to walk on. Temperature: minus 1.8 C, Maximum wind speed 28.7 mph, Wind chill: minus 11.6 C, Average wind speed: 25.0 mph

Issued at: 1101 on Tue 02 Feb 2021

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